

BETWEEN THE PAGES

FEBRUARY 2016

ADULT
PROGRAMSColor Away the
Winter Blahs

Coloring for Adults is the Library's newest adult program and starts in February.

This is the latest stress-busting fad. Coloring can be calming and here's why, according to clinical psychologist Scott Bea:

Coloring draws attention away from yourself and brings you into the present moment. In this way, it is very much like a meditative exercise.

When your mind is focused on a simple activity and not disturbed by thoughts and appraisals, your brain tends to relax.

The fact that coloring has a predictable

outcome also can be relaxing. It is hard to mess up, and, even if you do, there is no real consequence. As a result, adult coloring can be a wonderful lark, rather than an arduous test of your capacities.

So come to the Board Room at 10:30 every Tuesday in February, choose your design to color and see for yourself if it helps alleviate stress and anxiety as research has shown.

Keep in Mind....

Container gardening, Spanish, Pilates, and Essential Oils are some of the programs available in February at Huntsville Public Library. In addition, the annual Genealogy Winter Lock-In is coming up on February 21st. Walker County Genealogical Society members will be available to help with your research and plan on serving you a light lunch.

"So come join in the fun and learn a foreign language, explore your heritage or tone your body and then discover which essential oil will ease sore muscles. There's something for everyone!"

Contact Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator, at (936) 291-5471 or visit www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com for more information.

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PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Huntsville, TX 77340
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Monday through Friday
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday
Noon to 4 p.m.
Closed Sunday



Telling the Family Story to Children

**By Richard Lane,
Public Services**

Young children appear to have inexhaustible curiosity. They learn quickly, explore their environment with an almost reckless abandon and are attentive, albeit for short periods, to stories told them by skillful storytellers. Children bring to life their own stories powered by seemingly boundless imaginations. Storytelling, at its best, is a shared activity. A suggestion, stimulate children's curiosity by telling them snippets of the family's history and listening to their responses. Be creative and make storytelling a fun family ritual.

The idea that early patterns of intellectual curiosity, when fostered by caring adults, lend themselves to lifelong pursuits of knowledge and understanding is a reasonable assertion. I will share an anecdote to illustrate my contention.

My paternal grandfather was born in 1877 on the plains of North Texas. He was a working cowboy in his youth and no doubt developed the yarn-telling skills common among cowboys as they gathered around the campfire. Later in life, my grandparents lived with us. My sister and I would often go to their room and listen to the yarns my

grandfather would spin. He told us stories of horses to be tamed and cattle to be tended. He told us stories from the rich history of his frontier family. He told us stories of cattle drives and stampedes and days and nights of hardships to be endured. His stories were rich with imagery and content. They were humorous and told with an underlining message of perseverance and rectitude. His characters were charming and bold, sometimes eccentric, but always seeking the right trail.

One night decades ago, as I stood in the doorway listening to one of his stories, my grandfather told me, "We're kin to Pocahontas". This short statement, made late in life by a spinner of yarns and tales, has led me to libraries and internet sites searching for clues to connect my family to the legend.

The story goes unproven. The evidence for the family tie may be there, but it has eluded me all these years. I have discovered, however, that my family has deep ties in Virginia leading back to first English survivors in the New World. Generations of my family migrated west: from Virginia to North Carolina into Tennessee and finally in 1835 to Texas.

My grandfather stories, as outrageous as they could be, full of color and imagination, set me on a personal journey to discover my family history. Along the way, I have learned a thing or two about the American Experience and the Lone Star State. I have my grandfather to thank for that gift. Pass your gifts on to your children and grandchildren. Tell the family stories so that they may be passed down to future generations.



Reading made Easy



TEEN SOCIAL HOUR

Since 2014, EPIC Press has been delivering fiction that young adult readers love to read. By moving away from tradition, these indulgent Young Adult chapter books connect with today's YA audience, captivate modern readers, and speak directly to their ambitious culture. These books are bold, edgy, emotional, and mature material for all young adults. EPIC Press books speak on issues many young adults are going through and can possibly help them find a solution to their issues. EPIC Press is committed to adventure and relevancy, and also aims to inspire a new generation of passionate readers to READ WHAT YOU WANT.

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EPIC Press is using this system called Scan-to-Read QR Code Labels to grant direct access to EPIC Press eBooks, with no login necessary. Download your favorite QR code reader app to begin. Access to an eBook is simple, first find a book, scan the code and instantly you can start reading. The great thing about this new eBook system is that there are no checkout, no passwords, or waiting list



required to access these eBooks. This new system allows patrons instant access to eBooks seamlessly and physically helps market the library's digital content.

Huntsville Public Library is excited to start utilizing this new system with a poster that patrons can use to scan the QR codes to their phones and begin reading in the Young Adult Department.



Controller Converters

Controller converters are a product you might want. Controller converters are made by a few different third-party companies.

The different companies put different features like Bluetooth wireless and wireless USB capabilities which make the price points vary on these converters.

You can also consider that a different converter would be needed

for each possible controller/console configuration.

So if you are itching to play split-screen multiplayer for a game and do not have enough controllers, consider looking into a controller converter to put that old Playstation controller, you put away to storage many years ago, to good use.

Drew Nevlund,
Library IT Specialist

Have you ever wanted to play a game on Playstation 2 and wanted to use a Playstation 4 controller?

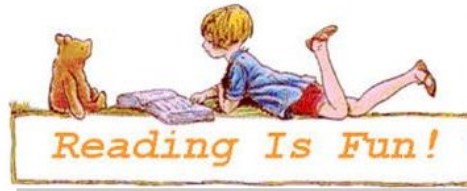
Have you ever want to play a Playstation 4 game using an Xbox One controller?

Literacy festival scheduled

The National Book Awards at Sam Houston State University is almost here! This three-day literacy festival brings National book Award recipients to Huntsville to meet and interact with the community. This event is very worthwhile as it acts as an outreach program to promote literacy and American literature.

This year's festival will be held March 16-18th. The goal of the festival is to bring books to people who might not otherwise have access to them. The 2016 guest authors will be Fiction Finalist Angela Flourney, Finalist in Young People's Literature Noelle Stevenson, and Poetry Finalist Ada Limón.

Fiction Finalist Angela Flourney raises the question of what the value of a home is to a family in her first novel. *The Turner House* paints a multi-generational portrait of the Turner family but also of



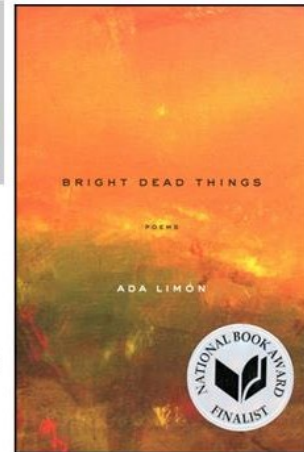
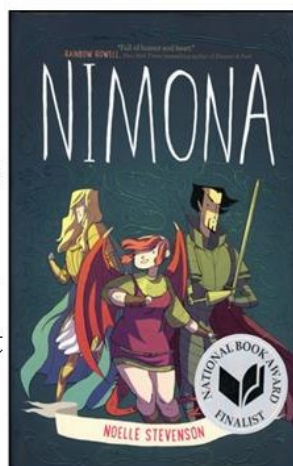
Detroit and the bonds that tie us together.

Noelle Stevenson, the youngest author to win a National Book Award at the age of 23, wrote graphic novel *Nimona*, a story about a shape-shifter who applies for a job with a super villain.

What starts as humorous fantasy story evolves into a poignant tale of loyalty and friendship.

Ada Limón's book of poems *Bright Dead Things* focuses on the truth of loss.

In a recent interview with the National Book Foundation, Limón explains that she often asked herself what she was afraid of. The an-



swers were the inspirations for her poems. The poet also explains that she was shocked to discover

happiness to be the most difficult emotion to write about.

Throughout the festival at Sam Houston State University, there will be several events in which you can meet these talented authors and learn more about their writing. Stay tuned for more information and event details.

*Rachel McPhail,
Children's Librarian*

dates
to Remember

Check out the exciting Children's Programs at the Huntsville Public Library!

- ☐ Mother Goose Lapsits, 10:30 Mondays
- ☐ Storytime, 10:45 on Wednesdays AND Fridays
- ☐ Family Movie Night, 5:30, 2nd Friday of the Month
- ☐ Wii Friday, 4:00-6:00 except on Family Movie Night
- ☐ Lego Club, 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 5:00
- ☐ Read with the Dogs, 3rd Monday of the month, 4:00

For more information, please contact Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail, at 936-291-5910.